

Port of Benton

Published by the Port of Benton - FALL 2025

Join Us for a Rail Information Night

Port of Benton invites the community to a Rail Information Night on Oct 20.

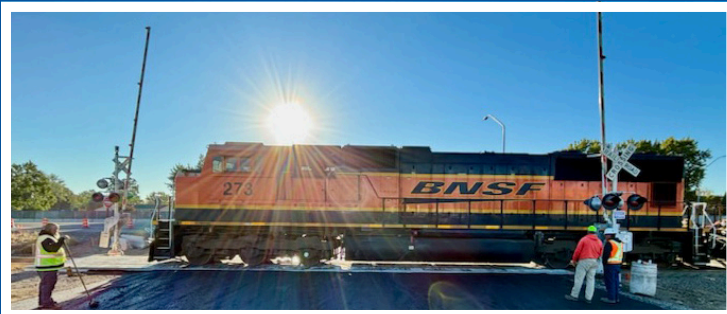
The Port team will discuss planned and recently finished rail projects.

Completed improvements included tie replacements and rail crossing upgrades, which allowed track speeds to increase from 5 mph to 10 mph.

Looking ahead, the Port will support the Steptoe Street rail crossing replacement project, a collaborative effort with the City of Richland, undertake additional rail improvements and plan for the future Northwest Intermodal Facility.

The Port will also highlight recent funding received to help fund these projects:

- A \$2.5 million federal earmark secured by Senator Cantwell will support the initial construction and expansion of Port-owned rail infrastructure, including a 10-acre yard for the intermodal facility. This development is expected to attract businesses, improve freight efficiency and create local jobs.
- A \$9.56 million RAISE grant (Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity), now referred to as the 2025 Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) program, will fund additional repairs and upgrades to the rail line stretching from Columbia Center Boulevard in Kennewick to Horn Rapids Road in Richland.
- A \$2.4 million Community Economic Revitalization Board (CERB) loan was secured, which will fund improvements to the 90,000-square-foot rail operations facility in north Richland. Benton County granted \$1.7 million from its Rural County Capital Fund to support the match required for this loan, along with Port funds.



Monday, October 20
4:30 to 6 p.m.
2579 Stevens Dr, Richland

These planned improvements will restore the track to Class 2 conditions, allowing train speeds to further increase to 25 mph, enhancing transportation efficiency across the region.

